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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/759,223	01/20/2004	Yasunori Imamoto	Q79509	6446

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EXAMINER

PASSANITI, SEBASTIANO

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3711

DATE MAILED: 03/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/759,223	Applicant(s) IMAMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner Sebastiano Passaniti	Art Unit 3711	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on see detailed Office action.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 October 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>08/23/2004</u> . | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Reasons for Allowance</u> .            |

### DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is responsive to communication received 01/20/2004 – application papers filed; 08/23/2004 – Petition for Extension of Time, Oath, Specification, Abstract, Drawings, Priority Documents and IDS; 10/26/2004 – Drawings.

Claims 1-10 are pending.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

Claim 1-10 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(a) for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention or discovery. The objections are grammatical in nature and correction of these objections will greatly enhance readability and interpretation of the claims:

As to claim 1, line 4, “integrally” should read --formed integrally therewith--. In line 5, “other” should be replaced with --a--. In line 6, --other-- should follow “portion”. In line 9, “other” should be replaced with --a- -. In line 7, “crown” (first occurrence) should read --face--, since it is both side edges of the face portion that are previously recited in lines 3 and 4. In line 8, “integrally” should read --formed integrally therewith--. In line 9, “other” should read --a--. In line 10, --other- - should follow “portion”. In line 14, - -the-- should precede “metal” and --a-- should follow “has”.

As to claim 3, line 2, --a- - should follow “has”. In line 6, “lager” should read --larger--.

As to claim 4, line 2, after “welded”, the phrase --to one another-- should be inserted.

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As to claim 6, line 2, "an area ratio of the face plate to the face portion" should instead read --a ratio of the area of the face plate to the area of the face portion--.

Also, in claim 6, line 3, "rage" should read --range--.

As to claim 7, line 2, "an area ratio of the top plate to the crown portion" should instead read --a ratio of the area of the top plate to the area of the crown portion--.

As to claim 8, line 4, "the" (second occurrence) should read --a--. In line 6, "the" (second occurrence) should read --a--.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-10 are allowable over the prior art references of record because it would not have been obvious to modify any of the prior art devices of record to include in combination a head main body having at least both side edges of a face portion, a top plate including an upper edge of the face portion and a face plate, wherein the elastic modulus of the top plate, head body and face plate are diverse, as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See Figure 1 in Seki. Note Figure 1 in Chen. Ezawa shows a hollow metal club head in Figure 2, of interest. See Figures 1, 2 and 5 in Cook. Observe Figures 2 and 3 in Masumoto. Song and Nagai show hollow heads, of interest.

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Leu, Anderson and Motomiya show hollow club heads fashioned from plural segments that are subsequently assembled to form a completed club head body.


Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sebastiano Passaniti whose telephone number is 571-272-4413. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (6:30-3:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Vidovich can be reached on 571-272-4415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Sebastiano Passaniti  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3711

S.Passaniti/sp  
March 3, 2005